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**REGISTERED PATENT AGENTS

September 27, 2000



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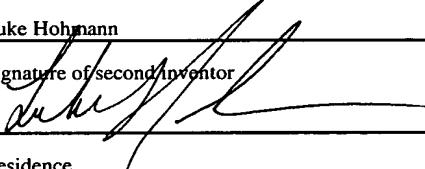
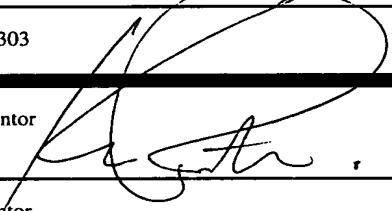
Box Missing Parts

Re: U.S. Patent Application
Appl. No. 09/545,564; Filed: April 7, 2000
For: **Patent-Related Tools and Methodology for use in Research and Development Projects**
Inventors: Germeraad *et al.*
Our Ref: 1531.0310001

Sir:

In reply to the "Notice to File Missing Parts of Application--Filing Date Granted," dated June 27, 2000, Applicants submit the following documents for appropriate action by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office:

1. PTO Fee Transmittal Form PTO/SB/17 (*in duplicate*);
2. Petition for Extension of Time Under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 (*in duplicate*);
3. Copy of the Notice to File Missing Parts;
4. Original Combined Declaration and Power of Attorney executed by the inventors;
5. Assignee 37 C.F.R. § 3.73(b) Statement with copy of Assignment attached;
6. Statement Claiming Small Entity Status Form;
7. Return postcard; and

Full name of second inventor		
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Signature of second inventor	Date 	
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Certificate Under 37 C.F.R. § 3.73(b)



Applicant/Patent Owner: Germeraad et al.

Application No./Patent No.: 09/545,564 Filed/Issue Date: April 7, 2000

Entitled: Patent-Related Tools and Methodology for Use in Research and Development Projects

Aurigin Systems, Inc., a corporation
(Name of Assignee) (Type of Assignee, e.g., corporation, partnership, university, government agency, etc.)

states that it is:

1. the assignee of the entire right, title, and interest, or
2. an assignee of an undivided part interest

in the patent application/patent identified above by virtue of either:

A. An Assignment from the inventor(s) of the patent application/patent identified above. The assignment was recorded in the Patent and Trademark Office at Reel _____, Frame _____, or for which a copy thereof is attached.

OR

B. A chain of title from the inventor(s) of the patent application/patent identified above to the current assignee as shown below:

1. From: _____ To: _____
The document was recorded in the Patent and Trademark Office at
Reel _____, Frame _____, or for which a copy thereof is attached.
2. From: _____ To: _____
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Additional documents in the chain of title are listed on a supplemental sheet.

Copies of assignments or other documents in the chain of title are attached.

NOTE: A separate copy (i.e., the original assignment document or a true copy of the original document) must be submitted to Assignment Division in accordance with 37 CFR Part 3, if the assignment is to be recorded in the records of the PTO. See MPEP 302-302.8]

The undersigned (whose title is supplied below) is empowered to act on behalf of the assignee.

Date: 7/26/2000

Name: IRVING S. RAPPAPORT

Title: VICE PRESIDENT INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

Signature: ISRappaport

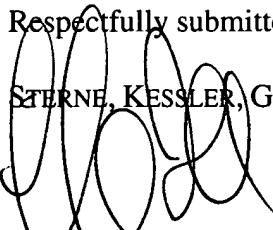
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8. Our Check No. 28917 for \$465.00 to cover:
\$345.00 Filing Fee for Patent Application (37 C.F.R. § 1.16)
\$ 55.00 Extension of Time (37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a)(1))
\$ 65.00 Surcharge for late filing of Declaration (37 C.F.R. § 1.16)

It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036. If extensions of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 other than those otherwise provided for herewith are required to prevent abandonment of the present patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned, and any fees therefor are hereby authorized to be charged to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036. A duplicate copy of this letter is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,


STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

Michael Q. Lee
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 35,239

MQL/MAM/tp
Enclosures